

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 EB-11 TRSE-00 AEC-11

COME-00 MC-02 ACDA-19 AID-20 /143 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN: LAPEZZULLO:TK

APPROVED BY ARA/CEN LAWRENCE A PEZZULLO, ACTING

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O P 220040Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:BBAK, ETRN, PFOR, HO,ES

SUBJECT:US CUSTOMS SEIZURE OF HELICOPETER PARTS DESTINED  
FOR EL SALVADOR.

REF: A) SAN SALVADOR 1127

B) PEZZULLO/MOSKOWITZ TELECON MARCH 19

C) PEZZULLO/DAVIS TELCON MARCH 21

1. SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR BETRAND GALINDO CALLED CEN  
AFTERNOON MARCH 19 TO DISCUSS SEIZURE OF HELICOPTER PARTS  
BY U.S. CUSTOMS. HE WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT  
OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES MIGHT MISUNDERSTAND GOES  
MOTIVES GIVEN FACT WIRE SERVICE STORY CLAIMED PARTS WERE  
FOR MILITARY HELICOPTERS. CENOFF ADVISED AMBASSADOR TO  
INFORM HIS FONMIN THAT GOES MIGHT FIND IT ADVISABLE TO  
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INFORM ITS NEIGHBORS DIRECTLY OF THE NATURE OF THE NE-

GOTIATIONS WITH PATTERSON CORPORATION ON ESTABLISHING HELICOPTER ASSEMBLY PLANT IN EL SALVADOR. AMBASSADOR BETRAND AGREED AND ASKED WHETHER WE THOUGHT IT ALSO WOULD BE USEFUL FOR HIM TO CALL HONDURAN AMBASSADOR ROBERTO GALVEZ AND CONVEY THE SAME INFORMATION. HE ASKED FURTHER WHETHER CEN WOULD BE WILLING TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR GALVEZ, SHOULD GALVEZ SEEK CONFIRMATION. CENOFF AGREED.

2. AMBASSADOR GALVEZ CALLED CEN MORNING OF MARCH 20

FOLLOWING TELCON WITH AMBASSADOR BETRAND, AND ASKED WHAT WE KNEW OF MATTER. CEN OFF TOLD GALVEZ THAT WE WERE AWARE THAT PATTERSON CORP WAS NEGOTIATING WITH INSAFI TO ESTABLISH A HELICOPTER ASSEMBLY PLANT IN EL SALVADOR. FURTHER, IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH PATTERSON CORP OFFICIALS WE HAD ASKED WHETHER THEY HAD APPLIED FOR AN EXPORT LICENSE. THIS WAS NEVER CLARIFIED, THOUGH WE HAD ASSUMED THAT AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME THE PATTERSON CORP. WOULD DO SO. THE SEIZURE BY US CUSTOMS, THEREFORE, CAME AS A SURPRISE. CENOFF SAID FURTHER THAT, HAD PATTERSON APPLIED FOR AN EXPORT LICENSE, WE WOULD HAVE CONSULTED WITH THE GOH IN KEEPING WITH OUR "EVENHANDNESS" APPROACH BEFORE PROCESSING, AND AT THAT TIME WOULD HAVE INVESTIGATED FURTHER ANY MILITARY IMPLICATIONS SUCH A PLANT MIGHT HAVE ON NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES THOUGH WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY PATTERSON THAT IT PLANNED TO ASSEMBLE ONLY CIVILIAN TYPE HELICOPTERS. GALVEZ WAS APPRECIATIVE AND SAID HE WOULD REPORT SUBSTANCE OF TALKS TO HIS FOREIGN OFFICE.

3. REF C INDICATED AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA HAS RAISED MATTER WITH GOH.

4. FOR SAN SALVADOR: INFORM FONMIN BORGONOVO OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOH OFFICIALS AND ENCOURAGE HIM TO MAKE A PARALLEL EFFORT. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AEROSPACE INDUSTRY, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, PRESS COMMENTS, AIRCRAFT COMPONENTS, HELICOPTERS, CUSTOMS SEIZURES, NEGOTIATIONS, BUSINESS REPUTATION  
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**Draft Date:** 22 MAR 1974  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** S CUSTOMS SEIZURE OF HELICOPETER PARTS DESTINED FOR EL SALVADOR.  
**TAGS:** BBAK, ETRN, PFOR, HO, ES, US, PATTERSON CORPORATION  
**To:** SAN SALVADOR TEGUCIGALPA  
**Type:** TE  
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